

Report of the Meeting

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI)

February 23 & 24, 2022



_____/s/_____
Arthur E. Keiser, Ph.D., Chair

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DISCLAIMER

This report summarizes the deliberations of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) at its virtual February 23 & 24, 2022 meeting. The NACIQI is an advisory committee established by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 and is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act. This report represents the views of the NACIQI. The report has not been reviewed for approval by the Department of Education, and therefore, the report's recommendations do not purport to represent the views of the Department.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

NACIQI was most recently authorized by Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. NACIQI's primary functions include advising the Secretary of Education on the establishment and enforcement of criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies under Subpart 2 of Part H, Title IV, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), as well as the recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations or a specific State approval agency. The NACIQI also advises the Secretary on the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, of the HEA, including the relationship between accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and state licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.

NACIQI met virtually February 23 & 24, 2022 through the Zoom platform to carry out its responsibilities to advise the senior Department official (SDO) with respect to the recognition of accrediting agencies.

NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications at its February 23 & 24, 2022 meeting:

- Five applications for renewal of recognition from programmatic accrediting agencies.

NACIQI reviews all information submitted by an agency in support of its petition, the staff analysis and report, and third-party comments.

Chairperson Arthur Keiser opened the virtual meeting and welcomed the Committee and members of the public.

Under Secretary James Kvaal addressed the Committee and other attendees, emphasizing the Administration's priorities—including those at the Department of Education—and the role of NACIQI. Some of the salient themes were quality assurance and improvement, student outcomes, equity, and value.

The Committee discussed the accreditor dashboards, and the chairperson requested the formation of a subcommittee to explore how the accreditor dashboards can best inform accrediting agency reviews.

Committee members participated in a general policy discussion after reviewing all five agencies up for renewal of recognition. Topics raised during the policy discussion included the accreditor dashboards; transparency of the review process for agencies, including petitions and supporting documents; NACIQI's role in making changes to its charter; revising the voting process for agency reviews; improving the E-recognition system for ease of usage; and learning more about how accrediting agencies review and evaluate their institutions' relationships with contractors.

NACIQI members in attendance for all or part of the meeting included Arthur Keiser (Chair), Kathleen Sullivan Alioto, Roslyn Clark Artis, Jennifer Blum, Ronnie L. Booth, Wallace E. Boston, Jill Derby, David A. Eubanks, Michael Lindsay, Molly Hall-Martin, Robert Mayes, Mary Ellen Petrisko, Michael Poliakoff, Claude O. Pressnell, Jr., Robert Shireman, and Steven VanAusdle.

U.S. Department of Education representatives who participated in the meeting included: NACIQI Executive Director and Designated Federal Official George Alan Smith; Accreditation Director Herman

Bounds; Office of the General Counsel staff members Donna Mangold, Soreen Lagaard, and Angela Sierra; and accreditation staff members Laco Corder, Elizabeth Daggett, Paul Florek, Nicole S. Harris, Charity Helton, Reha Mallory, Stephanie McKissic, Karmon Simms-Coates, Michael Stein, and Adrienne Walker.

SUMMARY OF AGENCY-RELATED ACTIONS

The following agencies were acted on—in the order they are listed—using NACIQI’s standard review procedures:

Renewal of Recognition | Accrediting Agency

American Podiatric Medical Association, Council on Podiatric Medical Education (APME-CPME)

Action for Consideration:

- Renewal of Recognition

Recommendation:

- Renew the agency's recognition for five years
- Vote: 14 “Yes”; 0 “No”; 0 “Recusal”; 1 “Absent”; and 0 “Abstention”

NACIQI Primary Readers:

- Roslyn Clark Artis
- Wallace Boston

Representatives of the Agency:

- Keith Cook, DPM, Chair, APME-CPME
- Eric Stamps, DPM, Chair, Accreditation Committee, APME-CPME
- Heather M. Stagliano, DHSc, Director, APME-CPME

North Dakota Board of Nursing (NDBN)

Action for Consideration:

- Renewal of Recognition

Recommendation:

- Renew the agency's recognition for four years.
- Vote: 14 “Yes”; 0 “No”; 0 “Recusal”; 1 “Absent”; and 0 “Abstention”

NACIQI Primary Readers:

- Kathleen Sullivan Alioto
- David A. Eubanks

Representative of the Agency:

- Dr. Tammy Buchholz, Associate Director of Education, NDBN

The Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE)

Action for Consideration:

- Renewal of Recognition

Recommendation:

- Find the agency in substantial compliance and renew the agency's recognition for five years. Require the agency to submit a monitoring report if an appeals panel is assembled during the recognition period to demonstrate the agency consistently adheres to the composition requirements of 602.15(a)(4), ensuring an educator and practitioner is assigned to all appeals panels.
- Vote: 14 “Yes”; 0 “No”; 0 “Recusal”; 1 “Absent”; and 0 Abstention

NACIQI Primary Readers:

- Ronnie Booth
- Michael Lindsay

Representatives of the Agency:

- Craig Little, Ed.D., President and CEO, CCE
- Jean-Nicolas Poirier, D.C., Ed.D., Council Chair, CCE
- Ray Bennett, VP of Accreditation and Operations, CCE

Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA)

Action for Consideration:

- Renewal of Recognition

Recommendation:

- Renew the agency's recognition for five years.
- Vote: 14 "Yes"; 0 "No"; 0 "Recusal"; 1 "Absent"; and 0 Abstention

NACIQI Primary Readers:

- Molly Hall-Martin
- Robert Shireman

Representatives of the Agency:

- Heidi E. Vellenga, Executive Director, CEA
- Ian Collins, Commission Chair, CEA

Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JCERT)

Action for Consideration:

- Renewal of Recognition

Recommendation:

- Renew the agency's recognition for five years.
- Vote: 13 "Yes"; 0 "No"; 1 "Recusal"; 1 "Absent"; and 0 "Abstention"
 - **Does not include a vote from the Vice Chairman who facilitated the voting process due to the Chairman's recusal.*

NACIQI Primary Readers:

- Robert Mayes
- Mary Ellen Petrisko

Representatives of the Agency:

- Julia Lasley, Ph.D., R.T. (R)(T), Chair, JCERT
- Chad Hensley, Ph.D., R.T. (R)(MR), Secretary/Treasurer, JCERT
- Leslie Winter, M.S., R.T. (R), CEO, JCERT Staff
- Traci Lang, M.S.R.S., R.T. (R)(T), Executive Associate, JCERT Staff
- Jennifer Michael, Ed.D., R.T. (R), Assistant Director, JCERT Staff

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Under Secretary James Kvaal addressed the Committee and other attendees, emphasizing the Administration's priorities—including those at the Department of Education—and the role of NACIQI. Some of the salient themes were quality assurance and improvement, student outcomes, equity, and value.

ACCREDITOR DASHBOARDS

The Committee discussed the accreditor dashboards, and the chairperson requested the formation of a subcommittee to explore how the accreditor dashboards can best inform accrediting agency reviews.

NACIQI POLICY DISCUSSION

Committee members participated in a general policy discussion after reviewing all five agencies up for renewal of recognition. Topics raised during the policy discussion included the accreditor dashboards; transparency of the review process for agencies, including petitions and supporting documents; NACIQI's role in making changes to its charter; revising the voting process for agency reviews; improving the E-recognition system for ease of usage; and learning more about how accrediting agencies review and evaluate their institutions' relationships with contractors.